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\* Admitted only in Maryland  
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• Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

November 21, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
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**Art Unit 2167**  
**Mail Stop Amendment**

**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**  
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Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 09/404,597; Filed: September 24, 1999  
For: **Optimized Rule Based Constraints for Collaborative Filtering  
Systems**  
Inventors: Rauser *et al.*  
Our Ref: 07744.0009 (2222.0870000)

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of **\$1,020.00** to cover the three (3) month extension of time fee;
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (PTO/SB/22);
3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

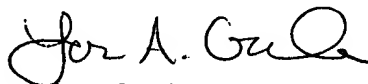
In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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MQL/LAG:kim  
Enclosures  
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